Boy dies, two hospitalised after eating 'toxic snacks'

By Our Correspondent

GUJRAT: A seven-year-old boy died on Friday and his two siblings were in a critical condition, allegedly after eating poisonous crackers (papad) a couple of days back, at Alipur Chattha town of Wazirabad district, on Friday.

Reports say that three minor brothers – Kazim, Qasim and Hashim – ate crackers from a local food outlet at Alipur Chattha on Wednesday, the last. Immediately after eating the snacks, the children fell sick.

As the children's condition deteriorated, they were shifted to the Gujranwala Teaching Hospital on Friday, where doctors declared Kazim (7), a student of class II, received as dead.

The other two siblings, Qasim and Hashim, were said to be critical when brought to the hospital.

Taking notice of the incident, Punjab Food Authority (PFA) Director General Asim Javed dispatched a team from the Gujranwala PFA directorate to Alipur Chattha, which collected samples and sealed the food outlet for allegedly selling poisonous snacks to children.

Meanwhile, a PFA spokesman claimed, quoting doctors, that the two surviving children were now stable.

He added that an inquiry had been initiated by the food safety officers into the incident, pledging strict action against those found responsible for selling poisonous snacks.

Katcha area robbers held

LAHORE: The police claimed to have arrested two robbers of Katcha area and shifted them to the police station for further investigation.

As per the reports, the Dolphin Squad personnel were patrolling in Nawab Town area where they signaled the two suspects for questioning.

During investigation, the suspects introduced themselves as Nazeer and Asif, residents of Rajanpur.

The police officials put their names and other particulars on the designated security apps and found out that they were hardened criminals of Katcha area.

A police officer said that the Dolphin Squad officials immediately alerted the high-ups when they found some video clips of the suspects they had uploaded being robbers on the social media platform.

According to the clips, the suspects had kidnapped some citizens for ransom.

He said they were taken into the custody for further action. — Staff Reporter

Govt admits disruption in air quality monitoring system, fix underway

Citizens accused govt of masking pollution by shutting down monitoring stations

By Imran Gabol

LAHORE: The Punjab government on Friday admitted to a disruption in its air quality monitoring system, just hours after social media users and analysts accused the authorities of deliberately turning off stations in Lahore to mask hazardous pollution levels.

The Punjab Environment Protection & Climate Change Department (EPCCD) announced the malfunction in a post on the social media platform X. "Due to a technical issue, AQI monitoring at some stations had been interrupted," the department stated, adding that a team was working to restore data and that current and missing information would be available soon.

This admission came amid a firestorm of controversy ignited by climate analyst Dawar Hameed Butt, who posted screenshots showing multiple stations on the official aqipunjab.com website had not updated their readings for hours, some still displaying data from October 30.

"EPCCD Punjab has turned off Monitoring Stations in Lahore," Butt posted on X.

"The ones left on are still 'Beyond Index'. These are PAS officers, PhDs and 'educated' staff, and they think closing their eyes will solve the problem. Absolute failure unfolding now," he added.

The allegations were echoed by another social media user, Hassan Aftab, who suggested a "strategic motive behind the alleged shutdowns."

"Punjab government's new air quality strategy: if pollution levels look bad, just turn off the monitors. [Eight] out of 10 monitors are shut beyond 10pm in Lahore (when air quality dips further) to lower the average. Lahore now breathing the cleaner air (on paper)," he wrote on X.

Aftab tagged Senior Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb, urging transparency. "Let's ensure there's uninterrupted data from the monitors; it will only help you better strategise on how to solve this," he added, noting that millions have already been spent on the monitoring infrastructure.

When checked by *Dawn* at 5pm on Friday, the aqipunjab.com website appeared to have updated most stations, with only the Multan Road station lagging.

However, the updated data painted a grim picture of the province's air quality, underscoring the critical need for reliable monitoring.

In response to the allegations, EPCCD spokesperson Sajid Bashir firmly denied the claims and told Dawn that the department updates air quality levels on an hourly basis and dismissed the social media users' accusations as "false claims."

Bashir rejected the screenshots shared by Dawar and others, asserting the department's commitment to providing accurate data.

Meanwhile, Lahore again ranked the most polluted city in the world, as its Air Quality Index (AQI) soared to a "hazardous" level of 517 between 8am and 9am on Friday.

Meanwhile, as per air quality data recorded at 10pm, at Civil Secretariat the AQI was 476, CERP Office 437, Forest Department, Ravi Road 431, Zacky Farms 424, Wildlife & Parks, Sandha Road 407, City School Allama Iqbal Town 390, Hiking & Mountaineering Club, GCU, 350, the City School, Shadman Market, 320, City School Paragon, 308 and at Pakistan Engineering Services, it was 308.

AQI recorded in Multan was 435, Gujranwala 379, Bahawalpur 304 and Sialkot 261.

EPCCD: The Environment Protection and Climate Change Department said the air quality monitoring stations in Lahore have been operating without interruption.

"We regret the inconvenience the public faced due to a lag of 12 hours from 3am 30-Oct-2025 to 3pm 31-Oct-2025 due to a technical glitch that caused a delay in data transmission to the public dashboard. Nevertheless, the monitors continued to collect data, which has been successfully retrieved and incorporated into the database," said EPCCD spokesman Sajid Bashir.

He further added that neither the monitors were shut down nor did the data have been lost for the period. "EPCCD is committed to measure air quality of major cities of Punjab by measuring six air pollutants with regulatory grade monitors and disseminate them to the public without manipulation and lag."

Police's anti-smog drive

Punjab police, over the past 24 hours, registered 22 cases in Lahore and other districts against those violating smog protocols during their ongoing anti-smog drive. Several violators were also arrested.

Punjab police spokesperson said that during the drive, 1,539 individuals were slapped a total fine of Rs3 million for violations of smog SOPs, while 53 others were issued warnings. During the operations, 11 cases of crop residue burning, 1,317 of excessive smoke-emitting vehicles, 8 of industrial activities, and 14 of brick kiln violations were reported, he said.

Car price hike: CCP told to conclude inquiry in six months

By Wajih Ahmad Sheikh

LAHORE: The Lahore High Court (LHC) has upheld notices by the Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) to an automobile manufacturer and ordered the regulatory body to conclude its 2018 inquiry into increased prices of cars within six months.

Atlas Honda Cars (Pakistan) Limited had approached the court through a petition challenging vires of notices issued by the CCP, whereby the manufacturer was required to provide information in relation to a suo motu inquiry under section 37(1) of the Competition Act, 2010, concerning increase in prices of vehicles.

Advocate Waqas Ahmad Mir argued on behalf of the petitioner/company that the entire proceedings initiated by the CCP were without lawful authority.

He contended that the inquiry, having been initiated in 2018, has been pending for years without conclusion, which amounts to harassment and is a violation of the petitioner's right to due process. The counsel further argued that the CCP had never formally communicated the grounds or prima facie reasons for the initiation of the suo motu inquiry, leaving the petitioner in the dark as to the precise allegations it must meet.

He maintained that the impugned notices were a testament to the CCP's arbitrary exercise of power. The CCP through its counsel Barrister Asadullah Chattha, opposed the petition, primarily on the ground of maintainability.

It was argued that the petitioner, by its own conduct, was not entitled to challenge the proceedings.

The counsel explained that the petitioner/company received the first notice in 2018, replied to it and subsequently participated in the proceedings, even giving a detailed presentation in March 2021.

In his rebuttal, the counsel for the petitioner said the compliance with earlier notices was done in good faith and did not create an ineligibility to challenge a continuing illegality. In his judgement, Justice Raheel Kamran ruled that even assuming the petition maintainable, the grounds of challenge raised by the petitioner are unfounded and contrary to the record.

The judge observed that the impugned notices were merely in continuation of the pending inquiry and it is not for the court to sit in appeal over the CCP's assessment of what information is relevant to its investigation.

He maintained that the CCP is the master of its own proceedings and unless mala fides are alleged and proven, the LHC will not interfere in the investigative stage. Concluding the judgement, the judge observed that although the relevant law does not prescribe any statutory time frame for conclusion of an inquiry by the CCP, principle of fairness demands that such proceedings are not kept pending for an indefinite period and must be concluded within a reasonable time.

YouTuber's case

Remand of six NCCIA officers extended

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: A judicial magistrate on Friday extended physical remand of six officers of the National Cyber Crime Investigation Agency (NCCIA) for three more days in a case of alleged misuse of authority and extortion from a YouTuber while in custody.

The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) anti-corruption wing produced six officers, including NCCIA Additional Director Sarfraz Chaudhry, before the court on expiry of their previous remand. Other arrested officials include Deputy Director (acting in-charge) Muhammad Zawar Ahmad, assistant directors Shoaib Riaz and Mujtaba Zafar, and sub-inspectors Ali Raza and Yasir Ramzan.

The investigating officer (IO) submitted an initial investigation report before the court, saying more than Rs25m had been recovered from the suspects.

According to the report, Rs7m were recovered from Raza, Rs900,000 from Zawar, Rs1.9m from Yasir and Rs3.6m from Riaz. The report further revealed that Rs12.54m was recovered from Sarfraz Chaudhry.

The IO told the court that an inquiry into the assets of the suspects had also been launched. He asked the court to extend the physical remand of the suspects for 12 days.

The defence lawyers, Rana Maroof, Farooq Bajwa and Muneer Bhatti, opposed the FIA's request for further remand.

Advocate Bhatti, the counsel of Assistant Director Shoaib, argued that his client allegedly transferred YouTuber Saadur Rehman alias Ducky Bhai's 0.3004 US dollars to his Binance account but there was not a single piece of evidence to support the allegation. He said it was alleged the suspect officers used to take monthly payments from call centers — but there was no evidence of that either. He stated that the case had been sensationalised on social media, which undermined fair trial standards.

The counsel argued that the suspects were accused of extending undue favour to the YouTuber in the investigation but the prosecution failed to establish this charge as well. He asked the court to discharge the suspects in the case.

After hearing the arguments, Judicial Magistrate Naeem Wattoo extended the physical remand of the NCCIA officers for three more days and directed the IO to produce them again on Nov 3.

The other day, the magistrate had also granted a three-day physical remand of NCCIA Deputy Director Muhammad Usman in the same case.

The FIA had registered the FIR on the complaint of Aroob Jatoi, the wife of YouTuber Saadur Rehman (Ducky Bhai), who was arrested in a case related to promoting gambling apps on social media.

The YouTuber has approached the Lahore High Court for post-arrest bail after denial of the relief by a magistrate and a sessions court.

BAIL DENIED: A sessions court on Saturday denied post-arrest bail to PTI activist Falak Javed in a case of uploading a fake objectionable video of a woman provincial minister on social media.

Additional District and Sessions Judge Dr Sajida Chaudhry dismissed a bail petition of the activist.

The National Cyber Crime Investigation Agency (NCCIA) had registered the case against the PTI activist.

Last week, she was allowed bail in a separate case of alleged misuse of social media platforms against state institutions.

The NCCIA had arrested Falak from Islamabad. Her sister, Sanam Javed, has been arrested from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and shifted to Kot Lakhpat jail, Lahore, to serve a sentence in a case of May 9 riots.

Falak is on physical remand with Racecourse police in a case related to attacks on Islamabad police team outside Zaman Park residence of former prime minister Imran Khan.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH AT KARACHI

H.C.A. No: 395 of 2003

Trading Corporation of Pakistan (Pvt) Ltd.....Appellant

Versus

M/s. Geomin S.A. Trading Company.....Respondent

NOTICE TO:-

M/s. Geomin S.A. Trading Company
Having its Office at 109-Calea Victorei, Sector-1. Bucharest, 70176, Romania.....Respondent

Mr. Akbar Ali R. Noorani.....Attorney
General Manager of M/s Al-Zai Corporation.
Having its Office at 604, Mohammadi House, I.I. Chundrigar Road. Karachi.....Respondent

WHEREAS, the above matter was fixed in Court on 13-10-2025 for Hearing of case, when the Hon'ble Court has pleased to pass the following orders of which is re-produce as under:-

'Office is directed to serve the notice upon them through all modes, including Publication.'

Please take notice of the above matter is fixed in Court on 11-11-2025 AT 08:15 A.M. for Hearing of case, when you are required to be present, failing which the matter will be decided in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court, this 25th day of October, 2025.

BY ORDER
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR
(CIVIL APPELLATE BRANCH)

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
CUSTOMS ACADEMY OF PAKISTAN
Old Custom House, Eduljee Dinshaw Road, Karachi
Phone #021-99214-223 Fax # 021-9921-4232

C.No. 12(04) Project/Repair/2025/ Dated: 28.10.2025

TENDER FOR REPAIR AND REFURBISHMENT OF OFFICE BUILDING OF CUSTOMS ACADEMY OF PAKISTAN, KARACHI

Sealed bids are invited through the **EPADS** system from the firms of good repute for the repair & refurbishment (including civil work) of the Office Building of Customs Academy of Pakistan (Old Custom House), Karachi as per terms and conditions mentioned below:

Submission of Bids :

1. All bidding documents, terms and conditions, eligibility criteria, and detailed information are available on the website of Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) (www.ppra.org.pk). Interested bidders may download the documents directly with key details.
2. Bids are to be submitted through **EPADS**
3. Bid submission deadline: 17.11.2025 at 03:00 pm.
4. Bid opening: 27.11.2025 at 03:30 pm.
5. Bid security: 5% of total quoted amount (pay order in favour of **Directorate General of Training and Research (Customs), Karachi).**
6. Performance guarantee: 5% of contract value (after award)
7. Contract validity: upto 30.06.2026.
8. Bidders can inspect the building and other areas on working days during office hours.

Bidders Must Provide:

1. Firm registration (on EPADS, valid NTN & SRB).
2. Firm profile (address, landline, e-mail, Bank details, active tax status).
3. Experience: Minimum 05 years.
4. Bid security: 5% pay order uploaded and submitted physically.
5. Stamp pad and signed documents: Uploaded and hard copies submitted.

Tender Eligibility :

1. The intending bidders must be registered with Pakistan Engineering Council in appropriate category.
2. Copy of Sales Tax Registration, Income Tax (NTN) and SRB certificate should be submitted along with the bid.
3. Bidders are required to submit complete certificates of evidence of the contracts carried out by their firms for the last three (03) years with different Companies / Government Organizations on the "Profile Form" available with bidding documents.

Evaluation & Award Process :

1. Bids are evaluated by the procurement (evaluation) committee via EPADS.
2. Non-compliant or incomplete bids are marked non-responsive.
3. Lowest or most advantageous bidder wins based on qualification & experience.
4. After evaluation, Letter of Intent (LoI) is issued; contract signed within 14 days.

General conditions :

1. All rates must be inclusive of all taxes.
2. Bid remains fixed for F.Y. 2025-26 (no escalation allowed).
3. All communication and clarifications handled through EPADS.
4. Customs Academy reserves the right to accept/reject bids or modify quantities.

(Muhammad Zohaib)
Deputy Director (Admin) PID(K)1495/25

MILITARY LANDS & CANTONMENTS DEPARTMENT
CANTONMENT BOARD MALIR
BOSTAN LINES MALIR CANTONMENT
Tele No. 021-99247077, Fax No. 021-99247066
Email: pa.cbmalir@gmail.com

No.MLR/Plot-75/1/99/3/DD/Sch-33/451/2025/

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public is hereby notified through this advertisement that **Mr. Muhammad Talha S/o Muhammad Asad holding CNIC No. 42201-0740084-1,** R/o house No. 48/1, Khayaban-e-Shamsheer, Phase-V, DHA Karachi has submitted proposed building plan consisting **03 Basement + Ground + 1st to 22nd Floor** for approval in respect of **Open Commercial land measuring 15290 Sq. Yards out of total land 19761 Sq. Yards** from Survey No.75/1 measuring 6267 Sq. Yards (1 Acres 11 Ghuntas and 96 Sq. Yards) and Survey No.99/3, measuring 13494 Sq. Yards (2 Acres 31 Ghuntas and 63 Sq. yards) out of total area 30 Acres 8 Ghuntas and 46 Sq. Yards situated in Deh Dozan, Tappo Gujro, Taluka Gulzar-e-Hijri, Scheme-33, Karachi East for approval in Cantonment Board Malir.

If any person or organization has any valid objection in this regard, can submit it in the office of Cantonment Board Malir, Bostan Lines, Malir Cantt, Karachi within **15 days** after publication of this notice. **No objection will be acceptable after the said time interval.**

Cantonment Executive Officer
Malir Cantonment
Tel. No. 021-99247077
Fax. No. 021-99247066

UNIVERSITY OF SINDH
ALLAMA I. I. KAZI CAMPUS, JAMSHORO SINDH, PAKISTAN

REGISTRAR No.ADMN./-3748
DATED: 31-10-2025

ADDENDUM/CORRIGENDUM
CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

In continuation to this office advertisement No.Admn./-3303 dated: 29.09.2025 the applications were invited for various managerial positions from qualified candidates (purely on tenure basis for a period of three (03) years) and the last date for online application form filling was fixed 31.10.2025. Now the date of online application forms filling on www.careers.usindh.edu.pk s extended up-to 10.11.2025 for the convenience of applicants.

By order of Vice-Chancellor,
31.10.2025

(PROF. DR MUSHTAQUE ALI JARIKO)
REGISTRAR

INF/KRY: 3612/25

iWORK FOR SINDH www.work4sindh.com JOB PORTAL BY INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

Karachi Water & Sewerage Corporation

SENIOR MANAGEMENT POSITION

Karachi Water and Sewerage Corporation (KW&SC), Pakistan's leading public sector utility serves the people of Karachi metropolitan area and is responsible for ensuring clean safe drinking water and sewerage services to public. Enacted under the Karachi Water and Sewerage Corporation (KW&SC) Act 2023, envisions corporatization and organizational reform activities and moved owards full corporatization, and a performance-based utility. As KW&SC navigates this form trajectory, the board of KW&SC is seeking the services of a dynamic and committed individual to lead the organization.

The board is looking for high caliber professionals with a record of successfully leading public or private sector organizations(s). The candidates should have a history of significant achievements that contributed to the growth, profitability or repetition of the organization. Prior experience of institutional transformation and change management would be an added advantage.

Chief Human Resource Officer - CHRO (01 Position)

Job Summary:

Reporting to the CEO, the CHRO will be responsible for the efficient and cost-effective performance of the employees of the corporation. He/she will oversee recruitment and other service matters of the employees, ensuring compliance with the prescribed rules of service and the Board's determination. He/she will be responsible for managing HR policy, recruitment, employee mobility, training, performance management, employee relations and welfare, HRMIS and administration and gender inclusivity.

For detailed Job Description please visit: www.kwsc.gos.pk

Qualifications and Experience:

- Master's degree with specialization in Human Resources Management, from a reputable institution/university recognized by HEC.
- At least 15 years post qualification experience, with at least five years as Head of HR Department or senior HR leadership role in a large public or private sector organization.
- The age shall be 45 years plus and in no case shall it exceed 65 years.

i- The appointment shall be on contract basis for period of 3 years and extendable on satisfactory performance.
ii- Appointment will be subject to fulfillment of codal formalities / legal/ administrative formalities.
iii- Position are based in Karachi
iv- Only shortlisted candidates shall be contacted
v- No TA/DA will be admissible for the interview.
vi- Government department candidates have to obtain NOC to apply for the position.

We are equal opportunity employer. Women are encourage to apply and strict confidentiality shall be maintained during hiring process.

Interested candidates may send their applications by post at the following address within 15 days of publication of this advertisement.

Secretary Board, KW&SC,
Chairman Secretariat,
9th Miles, Karsaz, Karachi,
Karachi Water and Sewerage Corporation

021-99245138, 99245140 info@kwsc.gos.pk www.kwsc.gos.pk Facebook.com/KWSCOFFICIAL Instagram.com/kwscofficial Twitter.com/KWSCOFFICIAL

KWSC/DPR/2025/65

آئیں کراچی واٹر اینڈ سیوریج کارپوریشن کے ساتھ مل کر پانی کی بچت یقینی بنائیں